GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1590
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006
BEEDI WORKERS
Kumar Shri Shailendra

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received various representations from the Beedi Majdoor organizations and also from public representatives in regard to the problems faced by the beedi workers in various parts of the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto alongwith the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) & (b): Representations from the Organisations/Associations of Beedi workers and also from public representatives in regard to the problems of beedi workers are received from time to time from various parts of the country including Uttar Pradesh regarding issue of Identity Cards, scholarships, medical facilities, etc.

(c): The necessary action/steps are taken to redress the grievances of the beedi workers. However, the Ministry of Labour and Employment has been implementating welfare schemes for the beedi workers and their family members through out the country including Uttar Pradesh in the sphere of Health, Education, Housing, Recreation and Water Supply under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund. There are 18 dispensaries and one 10-bed hospital in Gursahaiganj (Uttar Pradeh), to cater to the basic health care of eligible beedi workers and their families. For specialized treatment like, heart, kidney, cancer diseases, patients are referred to recognized speciality hospitals and the cost of treatment is reimbursed upto certain limit. The number of beneficiaries and expenditure incurred during last three years under Health, Education & Housing for beedi workers in Uttar Pradesh under above Welfare Fund is as follows:

(Expenditure figures are in Rs. in lakh)

		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
HEALTH	Expenditure	191.82	246.17	235.96
	Beneficiaries	257608	264485	240044
EDUCATION	Expenditure	88.68	117.21	157.73
	Beneficiaries	13634	15394	19693
HOUSING	Expenditure	13.92	24.49	24.29